

# TWINE DRAWSTRING BAG



This drawstring bag, with little compartments on the inside, can be made large or small and is the ideal use for your fabric scraps. It cinches up perfectly for transportation or storage of everything from jewelry to potluck muffins. My first such bag was given to me by my sister-in-law, Sandy, after my husband and his siblings gathered together to sort through possessions after their parents' deaths. Ahead of time, Sandy had made two dozen drawstring bags, each bag to hold one piece of jewelry from her mother's collection. Afterward, all the women in the family were given a piece of jewelry as a remembrance of her mother, Ruth Ogle.

#### **YOU'LL NEED:**

\*Note: Instructions are for smaller bag. Requirements for larger bag are shown in parentheses ( ).

Fabric A: one fat quarter or ¼ yard 44"-wide fabric (2/3 yard 44"-wide fabric)

Fabric B: one fat quarter or ¼ yard 44"-wide fabric (2/3 yard 44"-wide fabric)

Jute (twisted jute gardening twine, 4 lb. load limit): 60" or 1¾ yards (130" or 3¾ yards)

Basic sewing supplies

#### **CUTTING:**

You can cut out Fabric A and Fabric B circles together by placing them on top of one another with right sides together.

Large Outer Circle: Cut one 8½" (21½") circle each of Fabric A and Fabric B.

Small Inner Circle: Cut one 5½" (17½") circle each of Fabric A and Fabric B.

Jute: Cut two 30" (65") pieces.

#### **ASSEMBLING, STITCHING, AND FINISHING DETAILS**

\*Seam allowance: ¼" unless otherwise noted.

\*RST = Right Sides Together

##### **Large Outer Circle**

1. RST, stitch Fabric A to Fabric B together using a ¼" seam allowance, stitching over a few of the beginning stitches.
2. In the Fabric A circle, using scissors with sharp tips (or a sharp seam ripper), carefully make a slit no longer than 2" (4") in the center of the circle. Turn the circle right side out and press flat.
3. To create casing, topstitch ½" and 1¼" in along the outer circle edge, stitching over a few of the beginning stitches.
4. Find the center of the circle: Fold circle in half vertically and press. Unfold circle and fold circle in half again horizontally and press (making a "+" in the center of the circle).
5. Cut 2 small slits in Fabric B at opposite ends of one straight pressed line, between the two rows of topstitching. Set aside.

##### **Small Inner Circle**

1. RST, stitch Fabric A to Fabric B together using a ¼" seam allowance, stitching over a few of the beginning stitches.
2. In the Fabric A circle, using scissors with sharp tips (or a sharp seam ripper); carefully make a slit no longer than 2" (4") in the center of the circle. Turn the circle right side out and press flat.
3. Find the center of the circle: Fold circle in half vertically and press. Unfold circle and fold circle in half again horizontally and press (making a "+" in the center of the circle).
4. Draw a 2½" (7½") circle centered on Fabric B.

**Stitching Circles Together**

1. With Fabric A of large outer circle facing up and Fabric A of small inner circle facing down, use the pressed lines to match up centers of both circles and pin in place.
2. Stitch drawn circle through all layers of fabric.
3. Stitch the four pressed straight lines from the circle you just stitched to outer edge of the small inner circle, making sure to backstitch at each end.

**Drawstring**

1. Thread first piece of twine through casing, beginning and ending at same slit, and knot ends together. (Attaching a safety pin through the one end of the jute helps to thread the jute through the casing.)
2. Thread second piece of twine through casing, entering casing at opposite side of first piece, beginning and ending at same slit, and knot ends together.
3. To close pouch, pull twine on both sides.